

**SECRET**

22 August 1956

*DRAFT - never sent*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, International Organizations Division  
Attention: [ ]

VIA : SR/COP/PP

SUBJECT : Reports on Lithuanian Emigre Activities Prepared  
by U.S. Embassy, Paris

1. Attached herewith are three reports dated 8, 27 and 30 December 1955 dealing with Lithuanian affairs which were compiled at the U.S. Embassy in Paris. The source of the information in the reports is John F. MAZIONIS, an employee or consultant of the Embassy. Below are some comments on these reports, based on information available in SR/2.

*ZAKREACIJS* 2. The report dated 8 December 1955, cites the opinion of Mr. Stasys ZYMANAS, a leader of the Lithuanian Resistance Alliance (LRS) in London, on the handling of the case of Professor Juozas MATULIS, a Lithuanian member of the Soviet Delegation to the U.N. General Assembly in the fall of 1955. Mr. ZYMANAS claims that the matter was handled in a "very stupid manner in New York". It should be pointed out that SR/2 investigated the possibility of mounting a defection-inducement operation against MATULIS and in that connection held consultations with its covert contacts but decided against the attempt for good and sufficient reasons. MATULIS has a family in Lithuania and it would be most unlikely that he should decline to return home. Moreover, it was established that MATULIS, in his own limited way, has been helping to preserve Lithuanian culture in his country and that it would best serve the Lithuanian cause if he remained in his present position, i.e. as Chairman of the Academy of Sciences of Lithuania. It was further decided not to do anything drastic with regard to MATULIS but, instead, to encourage a relationship which a certain journalist, an indirect contact of ours, had established with the Subject. It must further be pointed out that, according to a reliable source, ZYMANAS has been corresponding directly with MATULIS and from the letters of ZYMANAS it appeared that the latter was fully satisfied with the handling of the MATULIS case in New York. ZYMANAS' report to the Embassy now suggests a degree of insincerity which may be motivated by Lithuanian emigre political considerations. This trait in his character has been confirmed to us by other sources.

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3. A second report, dated 27 December 1955, constitutes a compilation prepared by Mr. MAZIONIS "containing a summary of opinions expressed by leaders of Lithuanian organizations in exile concerning the recent changes in VLIK". It must be stated that this so-called compilation is biased and is actually an expression of the compiler's opinion rather than that of leaders of Lithuanian organizations. The report is critical of the recent organizational changes which took place in VLIK and follows the line of criticism expressed by LRS in London and the National Party, headed by RASTENIS, in New York.

4. The report dated 30 December 1955 deals with a letter which Mr. MAZIONIS received from S. ZYMANTAS in which the latter expressed his desire to emigrate from England to the U.S. The author of the report favors the support of ZYMANTAS' request for assistance in procuring an immigration visa. A detailed biography of ZYMANTAS is attached to the report. With reference to ZYMANTAS' request for a visa, it should be pointed out that he is regarded as a controversial figure among Lithuanian political groups. He is very ambitious and apparently not too selective as to the means he employs to achieve his political goals. From what was said in paragraph 2 above about ZYMANTAS' character, it seems that he may continue to instigate intrigues involving leaders of Lithuanian political parties.

5. In connection with the above reports written by Mr. MAZIONIS, it seems odd that the Embassy in Paris should use as a source for its information on Lithuanian affairs a person who apparently is a full-plledged supporter of LRS in London and in no way can be regarded as an objective observer of and reporter on Lithuanian affairs. Furthermore, on the basis of previous reports which this source submitted via the U.S. Embassy in Paris, it appears that he is very inadequately informed on Lithuanian affairs. All his previous reports had a strong inclination towards LRS and his observations were made exclusively from the point of Lithuanian nationalistic parties, disregarding the influences and value of other political groups in the Lithuanian emigration. It is also interesting to note that the Embassy, in submitting these reports, is either unaware of or else has completely overlooked the fact of LRS's close connections with British Intelligence.

6. In view of the above it is recommended that: a) the corresponding desk at the State Department be informed of our low evaluation of the source of these reports; b) we do not support ZYMANTAS' request for an immigration visa to the U.S. since he may hinder our present efforts to establish a united front of Lithuanian political groups and it is therefore more expedient that the Subject remain at his present place of residence for the time being.

Chief, SR/2

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